

From: Aaron Dumas <aaron.ml.dumas@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 12, 2022 2:16 PM
To: DES SBCC
Subject: 2021 WSEC-R Provisions Public Comment

External Email

Dear Council Members,

I urge you to adopt the proposed energy code updates. Washington State needs to remove fossil fuels from the residential building stock, and accelerate the transition to all-electric buildings in order to meet the state's emissions reduction goals set forth in the 2021 State Energy Strategy. This move is important for addressing the climate crisis, occupant health and safety, and an equitable transition to clean energy.

As Washington's population continues to grow, homes and buildings constitute the fastest growing source of greenhouse gas emissions, and increase the state's energy demands. The proposed energy code updates to require heat pump space heating will help to reduce emissions in new homes and protect occupants from the health and safety risks associated with gas space heating equipment. Additionally, moving to all-electric buildings builds resiliency into our grid and communities, as these building can be run from a diverse array of non-polluting renewable energy sources, which can help the functioning of critical services in a disaster and reduce long term energy cost for customers. The proposed energy code updates also present an opportunity to increase the number of jobs in the construction trades and energy sectors, as there will be increased demand for the technical expertise and skilled labor necessary to transition away from fossil fuels. Finally, this is an opportunity to spur innovation and new technology in building electrification and elevate Washington as a leader in electrification. By making electric equipment the baseline energy code, economies of scale are created that can reduce cost and increase adoption across the state, and it creates a market for new, more efficient, technologies to be feasibly deployed.

Again, I urge you to please adopt the proposed energy code updates for the benefit of all residents of Washington.

Thank you.

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